

35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2 to 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being as being unpatentable over Sarraf in view of Buus.

Page three of the new Office Action states that Sarraf varies a laser power or exposure time via focus adjusting means, citing the Abstract, lines 11-12 of Sarraf. However, the focus adjusting means of Sarraf does not vary the laser power (measured in watts, for example), or the exposure time (measured in seconds, for example), but rather merely alters the spot size, and thus the laser intensity (measured for example in watts per centimeter squared). The linear optical system disclosed by Sarraf cannot not change the laser power or exposure time, but rather only the size of the area the laser is focused onto.

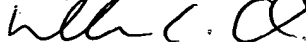
Claims 1, 10, 11 recite "a laser control varying the laser power or an exposure time as a function of a distance of the laser light source from the image spot" and claim 6 recites "varying a laser power or exposure time so as to vary a spot size of image spots on the printing surface." Neither Sarraf nor Buus discloses these limitations, and withdrawal of the rejection to claims 2 to 11 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,

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